(c) whether there is any crisis facing HLL;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have given top priority to purchasing of HLL productions;

(f) whether the Hindustan Latex Limited products are pending;

(g) if so, the total quantum of products still pending; and

(h) the step being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) and (b). The Hindustan Latex Limited has contemplated setting up of a project for the manufacture of Bulk Drug - 'Centchrome'.

(c) to (h). The Company depends heavily on procurement of its products by the Government for the National Family Welfare Programme. Therefore, continuance of the present policy of Preference is critical for the Company. Presently, Purchase Preference Policy is being followed by the Ministry while placing orders. The inventory of production with the Company will be fluctuating from time to time.

**Major Projects from Brahmaputra Board**

3911. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state.

(a) whether Brahmaputra Board has prepared some major projects covering the Brahmaputra and the Barak river systems; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to implement these projects?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) and (b). Brahmaputra Board has undertaken survey and investigations for several major multipurpose projects on the Brahmaputra river and its tributaries and also on the Barak river. The Technical Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Water Resources has so far accorded technical clearance to the Tipaimukh project on Barak and Pagladiya project on Pagladiya river, a tributary of Brahmaputra. In respect of Pagladiya project, environmental clearance has been received recently. Planning Commission is being approached for issuing investment clearance.

**Filaria Patients**

3912. SHRI MOHAN RAWALE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of filaria patients in the country at present, State-wise;

(b) the effective steps taken by the Government to control this disease and the extent to which these steps have proved successful;

(c) whether Government propose to launch a National Filaria Control Programme to control the spread of this disease;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI): (a) State-wise estimated number of Filaria patients as recorded in 1995 is given in the statement enclosed.

(b) to (e). The National Filaria Control Programme (NFCP) has been in operation to undertake vector control activities and provide passive treatment to the patients reporting to the Units. The Programme is a Centrally sponsored Programme operated on a 50:50 sharing basis.

As a result of the measures undertaken, it has been reported that the micro-filarial rates in 74 per cent of towns and disease rates in 69 per cent of towns showed reduction where control measures have been in operation for more than 5 years.

**STATEMENT**

*Statewise estimated number of filaria cases as on 31.12.1995*

| Sl. No. | Name of the States/ Union Territories | No. of filaria cases (In million) |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1.48 |
| 2. | Assam | 6.09 |
| 3. | Goa | – |
| 4. | Bihar | 5.95 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 0.14 |
| 6. | Karnataka | 0.08 |
| 7. | Kerala | 2.45 |
| 8 | Madhya Pradesh | 0.08 |
| 9. | Maharashtra | 0.17 |